## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims**

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A hearing system comprising: at least one ear-applicable hearing device with an input acoustical/electrical converter arrangement, and a switching unit being switchable by an individual who controls to control said hearing device in a first stable operating status as desired by said individual or in at least one second stable operating status as desired by said individual, so as to adapt said hearing system by said individual to a respectively desired operating status, whereby said first and second stable operating statuses are different and are perceived by the individual as being different, said hearing systemswitching unit comprising a sensing unit sensing operating stability and operating instability of an acoustical feedback loop including said hearing device applied to said individual, said sensing unit controlling switch-over from said one desired to said at least one second desired operating status whenever instability of said feedback loop is sensed, said instability being willingly established by said individual at a desired moment and removed by said individual at a second desired moment so as to control

Appln. No. 10/676,629 Amendment dated May 8, 2009 Reply to Office Action dated December 10, 2008

said switch-over by the willingly applied instability during the time span between said second and said first moment.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein said instability of said feedback loop is established by said individual by manually applying a member adjacent to and/or to said hearing device.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The system of claim 2, wherein said member is a hand.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The system of claim 1, further comprising a second hearing device operationally connected to said at least one ear-applicable hearing device by a communication link, wherein said first and second desired operating status comprise status of at least one of said hearing devices and said communication link.

Claim 8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one hearing device is an outside-the-ear hearing device or an in-the-ear hearing device or a completely-in-the-canal hearing device.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one hearing device is a hearing aid device.

Claims 11-13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A method for manually controlling a hearing system with a hearing device, to switch over from one desired operating mode of the hearing device to at least one other desired operating mode of the hearing device, comprising the steps of:

providing the hearing device, wherein the hearing device is worn by an individual;

willingly establishing, by the individual, an instable operating mode of the hearing device, wherein the instable operating mode is established by manually applying a member adjacent to and/or to said hearing device;

changing from the one desired operating mode of the hearing device to the at least one other desired operating mode of the hearing device upon the hearing device sensing

the instable operating mode; and The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of willingly ceasing, by the individual, the instable operating mode of the hearing device after changing from the one desired operating mode of the hearing device to the at least one other desired operating mode of the hearing mode of the hearing device.

Claim 15 (New): A method for manually controlling a hearing system with a hearing device, to switch over from one desired operating mode of the hearing device to at least one other desired operating mode of the hearing device, comprising the steps of:

providing the hearing device, wherein the hearing device is worn by an individual;

willingly establishing, by the individual, an instable operating mode of the hearing device, wherein the instable operating mode is established by manually applying a member adjacent to and/or to said hearing device;

changing from the one desired operating mode of the hearing device to the at least one other desired operating mode of the hearing device upon the hearing device sensing the instable operating mode; and

willingly ceasing, by the individual, the instable operating mode of the hearing device.

Appln. No. 10/676,629 Amendment dated May 8, 2009 Reply to Office Action dated December 10, 2008

Claim 16 (New): The system of claim 1, wherein said switch-over occurs during a time span between said second and said first moment.